

Clearance

17 January 1978

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Compartmented Information Branch

FROM: Robert E. Leidenheimer

[redacted] enter

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SUBJECT: Certification of Members of the  
Legislative Branch of the Government

1. When telephonic or cable inquiries arrive regarding the codeword clearances of staff members (not elected officials) of the several congressional committees, the data registered in SPECLE should be certified. If the data in the computer does not appear to satisfy the caller, please consult with [redacted] on the chance that an indoctrination may have occurred quite recently before input to SPECLE was possible.

2. Regarding inquiries concerning elected officials, the following wording has been coordinated with the Office of Legislative Counsel for responses:

Senators and Congressmen (elected officials) are not formally indoctrinated for access to sensitive compartmented information (SCI). Those elected officials who are members of committees having oversight of intelligence activities may be given SCI upon approval of the Senior Intelligence Officer of the agency providing the information, with the caveat that the information being supplied is Top Secret and compartmented and is of an extremely sensitive nature. Such disclosures should be reported promptly to the Office of Legislative Counsel, CIA, which maintains the DCI record of release of SCI to the Legislative Branch.

3. In addition, for cabled inquiries regarding elected officials from CIA stations abroad, this sentence should be added:

ADMINISTRATIVE — INTERNAL USE ONLY

MORI/CDF

Please consult [redacted] dated 8 October 1976 for additional guidance regarding meetings with members of the Legislative Branch of the Government. Paragraph 3a of this instruction should be amended to include the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

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4. Please insure that all CIB employees are given copies of this memorandum to keep handy in order to answer future inquiries.

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